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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Raguse et al.

Serial No. : 09/226,699

Filed : January 7, 1999

Group Art Unit : 1641

Examiner : C. Chin

Title : SELF ASSEMBLY OF SENSOR MEMBRANES
GROUP II

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ELECTION OF CLAIMS RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

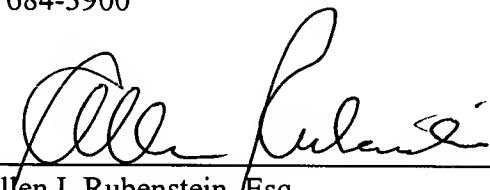
In response to an Office Action dated December 20, 2000, wherein the Applicants were requested to make an election under 35 U.S.C. 121, the Applicants hereby elects Group II -- Claims 69-80, drawn to a lipid membrane based biosensor. The election is made with traverse.

Groups I and II, as defined by the Examiner, are inexorably related. The features of a membrane having ionophores provides a commonality of structure which in the context of this invention makes it feasible to conduct an appropriate prior art search and examination without the necessity of splitting the invention into two separate applications.

The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional amount necessitated by this reply, including any charges for extensions of time to allow consideration of this or any future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time, to deposit account 07-1730. This authorization should be treated as a constructive petition for such extensions of time, if any, as are necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

Allen I. Rubenstein, Esq.
Reg. No. 27,673

Dated: New York, New York
February 16, 2001